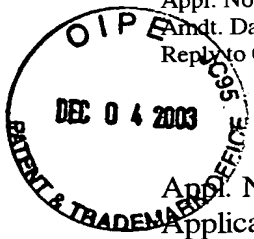


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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2635

Appl. No.: 09/893,185
Amtd. Dated: December 1, 2003
Reply to Office Action of: October 1, 2003



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 09/893,185
Applicants : Kazuya Suzuki et al.
Filed : June 27, 2001
Title : APPLIANCE MAINTENANCE APPARATUS AND
APPLIANCE REMOTE MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

TC/A.U. : 2857
Examiner : Felix E. Suarez

Docket No. : 33733

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT "B" AFTER FINAL FILED UNDER RULE 1.116

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2003 (Paper No. 7). The three month period for responding to the Office Action expires on January 1, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Suzanne B. Gagnon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

Suzanne B. Gagnon

Signature of Attorney

December 2, 2003

Date